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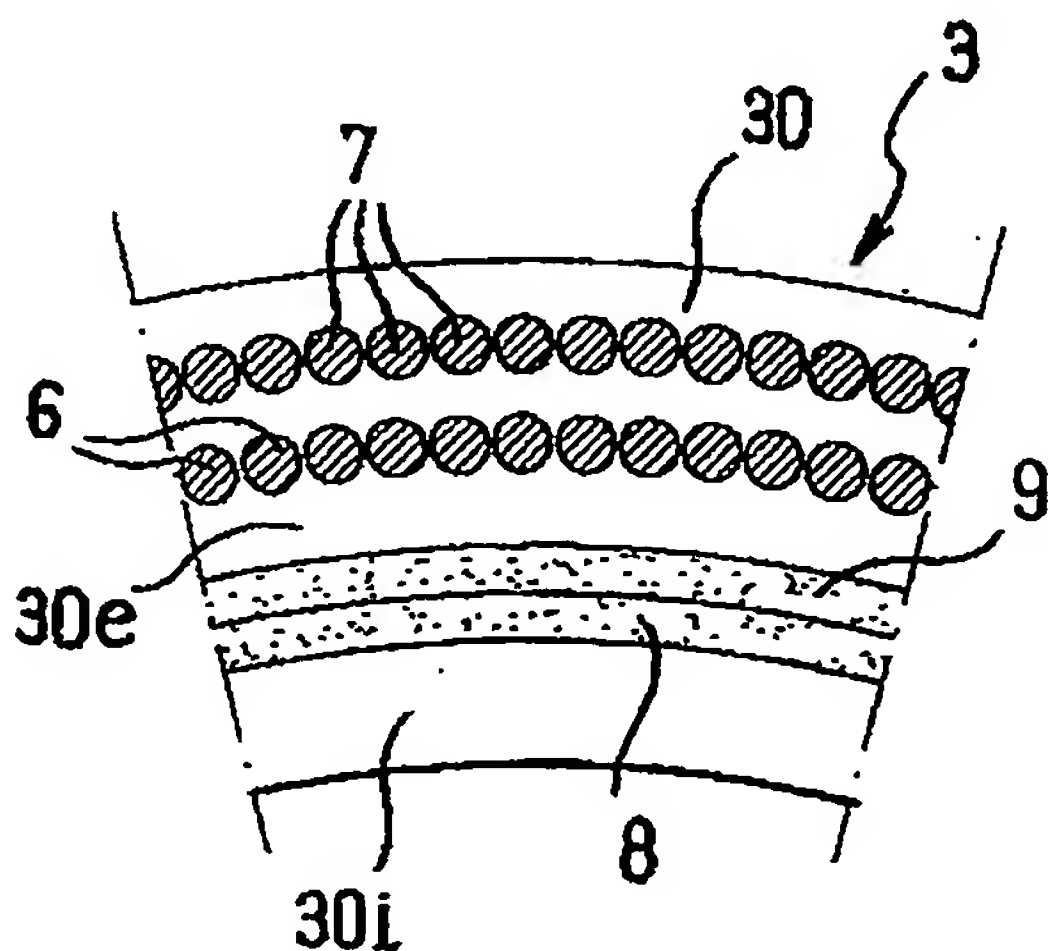
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A SEALING DEVICE FOR TEMPORARILY CLOSING A WELL OR A PIPE



(57) Abstract: The device comprises a tubular membrane (3) of circular section, having a wall (30) of material that is leakproof, flexible, and elastic, e.g. of rubber, and that is inflatable and deformable radially outwards under the action of internal fluid pressure, said membrane (3) being mechanically reinforced by at least one sheet of flexible strands (6, 7); the device is remarkable in that it includes at least one and preferably a pair of adjacent and concentric cylindrical fiber layers (8, 9) embedded in the thickness of the wall (30) inside relative to the sheet of flexible strands (6, 7), and of a structure that acts as an anti-extrusion barrier, limiting creep of the material of the wall (30) and preventing it from passing outwards between said reinforcing wires (6, 7) under the effect of the pressure generated by the inflation fluid. The device serves for temporarily closing the casing of an oil well or a variety of pipes.

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